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Claims

What is claimed is:

1   1.   In a computer controlled user interactive display
2   system, a display interface implementation for enabling
3   an interactive user to select specific items on a display
4   screen comprising:
5   user controlled means for moving an on-screen
6   pointer to approach said selectable items;
7   means for providing a scope of display screen area
8   adjacent said moving pointer within which scope said
9   items are enabled for user selection; and
10   means for enabling a user to interactively modify
11   said scope of said moving pointer.

1   2.   The display system of claim 1 wherein said items are
2   icons.

1   3.   The display system of claim 2 wherein said scope may
2   be modified without changing the image of said pointer.

1   4.   The display system of claim 3 wherein said scope may
2   be modified by changing the geometric configuration of
3   the scope.

1   5.   The display system of claim 3 wherein said scope may
2   be modified by changing the size of the scope.

1   6.   The display system of claim 3 wherein said scope may
2   be modified by changing the position of the scope.

1   7. The display system of claim 3 wherein said scope is

2   circular.

1   8. The display system of claim 3 wherein said scope is

2   rectilinear.

1   9. A method for enabling an interactive user to select
2   specific items on a display screen in computer controlled
3   user interactive display systems comprising:
4   moving an on-screen pointer to approach said
5   selectable items;
6   providing a scope of display screen area adjacent
7   said moving pointer within which scope said items are
8   enabled for user selection; and
9   enabling a user to interactively modify said scope
10   of said moving pointer.

1   10. The method of claim 9 wherein said items are icons.

1   11. The method of claim 10 wherein said scope may be
2   modified without changing the image of said pointer.

1   12. The method of claim 11 further including the steps
2   of
3   displaying the scope of the moving pointer on said
4   display screen prior to modification; and
5   removing said scope from the display screen after
6   any modification.

1   13. The method of claim 12 wherein said scope may be
2   modified by changing the geometric configuration of the
3   scope.

1   14. The method of claim 12 wherein said scope may be
2   modified by changing the size of the scope.

1   15. The method of claim 12 wherein said scope may be
2   modified by changing the position of the scope.

1   16.   The method of claim 12 wherein said scope is
2   circular.

1   17.   The method of claim 12 wherein said scope is
2   rectilinear.

1   18.   A computer program having program code included on a

2   computer readable medium for enabling an interactive user

3   to select specific items on a display screen in a

4   computer controlled user interactive display system

5   comprising:

6   user controlled means for moving an on-screen

7   pointer to approach said selectable items;

8   means for providing a scope of display screen area

9   adjacent said moving pointer within which scope said

10 items are enabled for user selection; and

11   means for enabling a user to interactively modify

12 said scope of said moving pointer.

1   19.   The computer program of claim 18 wherein said items

2   are icons.

1   20.   The computer program of claim 19 wherein said scope

2   may be modified without changing the image of said

3   pointer.

1   21.   The computer program of claim 20 wherein said scope

2   may be modified by changing the geometric configuration

3   of the scope.

1   22.   The computer program of 20 wherein said scope may be

2   modified by changing the size of the scope.

1   23.   The computer program of 20 wherein said scope may be

2   modified by changing the position of the scope.

1   24.   The computer program of claim 20 wherein said scope

2   is circular.

1 25. The computer program of claim 20 wherein said scope
2 is rectilinear.